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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Akira Yamaguchi

Q63866

3508

7590 06/04/2007
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

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DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/965,890	Applicant(s) YAMAGUCHI, AKIRA	
	Examiner Kimnhung Nguyen	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/18/07.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-24 and 27-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-24, 27, 28 and 31-33 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Application has been examined. The claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-24, 27-29 and 31-33 are pending. The examination results are as following.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mayer, III et al. (US 6,690,337).

Regarding claim 29, Mayer, III et al. discloses in fig. 3A, an image display system comprising:

a plurality of flat panel displays (202, 204, 206); a casing (201, see col. 3, lines 47-50) for integrally accommodating the plurality of flat panel displays; a power source common to the plurality of flat panel displays (see col. 4, lines 36-39); and a control unit (not shown) for controlling the plurality of flat panels displays (see col. 4, lines 36-40), wherein the control unit (not shown) is an inherent disposed inside in the casing. Office Notice is taken for this limitation because using the control unit usually disposed inside the casing is old and well-known in the image display system for controlling the plurality of flat panel displays), the control unit controlling the plurality of flat panel displays, and wherein the control unit controls image data signals displayed on the plurality of flat panel displays.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-24, 27, 28 and 31-33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the cited art teaches or suggest that a medical image display system comprising the measurement results of luminance gradation characteristics of each of said plurality of flat panel displays, which is individually measured, maximum luminance values of all of said plurality of flat panel displays are set to a predetermined value equal to or smaller than maximum luminance value of a flat panel display in which the maximum luminance value is lowest, and middle range of the luminance gradation characteristics of all of said plurality of flat panel displays are adjusted as claim 1; or at least one of said plurality of flat panel displays has a holding unit for holding a medical film to superpose it on an image displaying screen, and has a function for moving a pointer in a state that white color is displayed on an entire region of the image displaying screen of said at least one of the plurality of flat panel displays having the holding unit as claim 2; or said plurality of flat panel displays are substantially aligned in a common plane and each of said plurality of flat panel displays has a viewing direction normal to a viewing surface and wherein viewing directions of said plurality of flat panel displays are substantially parallel as claim 31; or a luminance measurement apparatus which measures a luminance gradation characteristic of each of said plurality of flat panel displays, wherein in each of said plurality of flat panel displays, a display screen size in a diagonal line direction is 10 inches to 25 inches, a pixel size is 50micro meters to 240micro meters, the number of pixels is 1200pixelx1600 pixels or more, and an aspect ratio is to 4/3 as claim 32.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimnhung Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7698. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI, FROM 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe can be reached on 571-272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kimnhung Nguyen
Patent Examiner
May 15, 2007